



517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team



PARACHUTE REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM

MailCall No. 2349

March 5, 2017

*517th Parachute Infantry Regiment
460th Parachute Field Artillery Battalion
596th Parachute Combat Engineer Company*

MailCall News



Terry Sanford and Don Fraser at the 1961 PRCT reunion, Chicago, IL

http://517prct.org/reunions/1961_chicago/reunion_1961.htm



517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team

517th PARACHUTE COMBAT TEAM ASS'N

March 25, 1961

Dear Trooper,

It is now 16 years since D Day in southern France...and it is 13 years since the "good Ole 517" had a get-together...

The above Committee, in corresponding with various Buddies has decided to get the old gang together for a D Day Blow-out on August 15, 1961 in Chicago.

We decided on Chicago because it is centrally located and easily reached by car, bus, train, plane or even the 517 way....footmanship.... Also Chicago has plenty of extra curricular activities for your wives, since many of you will want to make this your vacation.

Please write DON MURPHY, 1840 Madison St., Chicago, 12, Ill., with the following information:

1. Can you make it to Chicago August 15 ?
2. Do you know any of the old gang and their addresses? This includes 460th artillery and 596 Engrs.

We are now announcing only the time and place...Our present plan is to have a three day affair on August 13-14-15 with the Climax Banquet on D Day. We have tentative arrangements with the Bismarck Hotel for our Headquarters. Every one is free to make his own Hotel arrangements or we can help in this regard if you wish.

Please send us any names you have...Our mailing list over these many years is very incomplete.

We'll see you in Chicago...Hurry and get in touch so we can finish the planning.

Regards,

Terry Sanford, Governor, North Carolina
Rupert Graves
Don Fraser
George Walton
Don Murphy
Bill Boyle

P.S. We are enclosing several extra copies of this letter so you can pass on to guys you see. Tell them to follow through also.



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March 2, 2017

1961 517th CHICAGO REUNION CONVENTION INVITATION

This was my dad who passed in 1998.

1st Lt. Ervin J. Pinkston, United States Army, Airborne Forces, 517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team, 3rd Battalion, G Company
3 January 1943 to 23 December 1945,
Italian Campaign, Operation Dragoon in France

Thank-you, Jane W. Pinkston

What's going on at Camp Toccoa at Currahee?
From: [Camp Toccoa at Currahee, Inc.](#)



Phase Two has begun.

This phase will encompass building four barracks 20 X 60 feet, using original building panels that were saved when the Camp was dismantled in the 1950's. The excavation work for the foundations is being handled by Crisp Grading of Toccoa. Also planned is a 30 X 70 foot bathhouse for our overnight campers and groups that run the mountain and want to freshen up afterwards. With this phase we also hope to close in the pavilion, using see-thru, roll up garage doors to block the wind and cold, but not the light. More on this as donations come in.

The new entrance arch is up and awaiting insignias to be made and mounted.

Lots of activity at the Camp, come up and visit us sometime, "CURRAHEE".





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The excavation work is finished for the area where we plan on constructing four barracks using original building panels saved when the Camp was dismantled in the 1950's. First we have to dig the footers, pour some concrete and lay about 2,000 block for the foundations. Then we can start putting up the barracks. We are looking at the possibility of obtaining another grant to help cover the cost of the additional building materials.

We also excavated for the new bathhouse which will house enough showers and bathroom facilities to handle large groups.

Along with the excavation work, we also had a donation of a line boring machine for a day and 525 feet of electrical conduct(thanks to Mr. John Corning) this was used to run electricity to the entrance for lights and gate operation. Wire for the lights and gate is being donated by Southwire Co. out of Carrolton, Ga.



We also have been in contact with a company out of Stockholm, Sweden, about installing see-thru roll up doors for the pavilion. More on this as it develops.

As some of you know, we have had discussions with a gentleman in Alabama about obtaining a C-47 aircraft that he has for sale. This is like the ones that the "Toccoa Men" were trained to jump from. The aircraft will need some work and a paint job before we move it to the Camp for static display. Keep your fingers crossed that we can make the deal.

Stay tuned for more updates from Camp Toccoa at Currahee - "Currahee"

Please post the attached on the History and Archives page of 517prct.org website. I found this in my dad's papers. He passed in 1998.

Jane W. Pinkston

This letter, on the following pages, sends the graduating ROTC class of the State University of Iowa to Officer Candidate training at Fort Benning. In addition to **Ervin Pinkston** of G Company, I also see **Richard Spencer** from Iowa, which has to be our Lt. Dick Spencer of HQ Company, 3rd Battalion. – BB



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SERVICES OF SUPPLY
Office of the Commanding General

Letter No. 2-5462
AG 210.453
xAG ea 201 (36)

Omaha, Nebraska
24 December 1942.

Subject: Temporary Duty.

To: Professor of Military Science and Tactics
State University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa

Each of the following-named students, ROTC, State University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa, will proceed, by the shortest usually traveled route, fr the address indicated after his name to Ft. Benning, Ga., reporting to the comdt, Infantry Sch, on 3 Jan 1943, for temp duty as student, for the purpose of attending the officer candidate course, class No 209.

ROBERT A. BERGSTROM, 347 E Broad St, Des Moines, Iowa
JACK H. BICKENBACH, 515 2nd Ave SW, Independence, Iowa
ROBERT M. BUCKLEY, 1132 E Washington, Iowa City, Iowa
MARVIN F. CHEVALIER, Strawberry Point, Iowa
DAVID C. DUNCAN, 125 Golf View, Iowa City, Iowa
JAMES F. FRAZIER, Nevada, Iowa
JAMES L. HAMMAN, R 4, Woodward, Iowa
VIRGIL H. HILL, Gilman, Iowa
RICHARD T. JOHNSON, Orion, Ill.
RUSSELL G. JONES, 749 Marengo Ave, Marengo, Iowa
HAROLD A. KNOTTS, 919 E Fairchild St, Iowa City, Iowa
MEYER MARKOVITZ, 415 S Dubuque St, Iowa City, Iowa
ROBERT J. McCAULEY, 204 Day St, Decorah, Iowa
DONALD E. McINTYRE, Maple St, Anita, Iowa
KEITH A. McNURIEN, 2624 Willis, Perry, Iowa
STANLEY R. MEEK, JR, 1957 Washington Ave, Cedar Rapids, Iowa
CHARLES M. MORROW, 215 1st Ave, Audubon, Iowa
PETER B. NAREY, Spirit Lake, Iowa
ROBERT B. OHME, Cushing, Iowa
PAUL C. OWENS, 268 19th Ave N, Clinton, Iowa
ERVIN J. PINKSTON, 381 N 1st St, Council Bluffs, Iowa
WALTER H. SANFORD, 2820 E Locust St, Davenport, Iowa
HENRY SCHEER, 106 Walnut St, Anamosa, Iowa
KARL F. SCHMIDT, Dysart, Iowa
CHARLES D. SHEDD, 1425 Auburn St, Rockford, Illinois
JOHN A. SIXTA, 1523 4th St NW, Cedar Rapids, Iowa
JOHN F. SJULIN, 2005 Argyle St, Hamburg, Iowa
STEPHEN F. SLAUGHTER, 821 N Linn St, Iowa City, Iowa
LOWELL E. SOUTHERN, Mingo, Iowa
RICHARD SPENCER, 3424 Cottage Grove, Des Moines, Iowa
LEO H. STAHL, Ely, Iowa



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(continued)

(Letter 5462, Hq Seventh Serv C, 24 December 1942, continued)

WILLIAM K. STAUSS, 318 N Pine St, Creston, Iowa
JACK V. TALBOT, 3016 Center Point Road, Cedar Rapids, Iowa
HOYT A. TATUM, Box O, Nora Springs, Iowa
WILLIAM H. WILLIAMSON, JR, 2202 Bendewirt Ave, Rockford, Ill
WENDELL W. WOODBURY, Corwith, Iowa
TDN. SOS 7 P 520-02 A 1605-23.

By command of Major General UHL
BORIS GEORGEFF,
Warrant Officer, JG, AUS,
Assistant Adjutant General.

DISTRIBUTION:

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Amazing World War II Facts



The first German serviceman killed in the war was killed by the Japanese.



Over 100,000 Allied bomber crewmen were killed over Europe .



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More U.S. Servicemen died in the Air Corps than the Marine Corps.



In World War II, British soldiers got a ration of three sheets of toilet paper a day. Americans got 22.

*From "Ducks" to Trucks . . .
From Bomber and Cargo Plane Engines to Guns and Shells*
CHEVROLET
Turns Out Volume for Victory
for Our Fighting Men



In 1941, more than three million cars were manufactured in the United States .
Only 139 more were made during the entire war.



CHEVROLET DIVISION OF GENERAL MOTORS



Four of every five German soldiers killed in the war died on the Eastern Front.



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Only 20 percent of the males born in the Soviet Union in 1923 survived the war.



In World War II, the youngest serviceman in the United States military was Calvin Graham - age 12. Graham lied about his age when he enlisted in the US Navy. His real age was not discovered until after he was wounded. (Unbelievable)



Only one out of every four men serving on U-boats survived.



The Siege of Stalingrad resulted in more Russian deaths (military and civilian) than the United States and Britain sustained (combined) in all of World War II.



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Adolf Hitler's nephew, William Hitler, served in the US Navy during World War II!!!



Adolph Hitler and Henry Ford each kept a framed picture of the other on his desk.



During World War II, the largest Japanese spy ring was actually located in Mexico .



The mortality rate for Russian POWs in German camps was 85 percent.



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Had it been necessary for a third atom bomb, the city targeted would have been Tokyo .



An Imperial Japanese Army intelligence officer, who fought in World War II, Hiroo Onoda never surrendered in 1945. Until 1974, for almost 30 years, he held his position in the Philippines . His former commander traveled from Japan to personally issue orders relieving him from duty in 1974.



Total casualties for World War II totaled between 50 - 70 million people, 80 percent of which came from only four countries - Russia , China , Germany and Poland . Over 50 percent of the casualties were civilians, with the majority of those being women and children.



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Administrivia

If you miss any MailCalls, they are all available online at <http://www.517prct.org/mailcall/>

- At any time, if you want to be added or removed from the MailCall list, just let me know, or just click on the unsubscribe link on the email.
- Send any news, stories, or feedback to: MailCall@517prct.org
- If you send me email that you do not want included in MailCall, just label it as FYEO.
- I now understand how Ben could get confused about what he already posted and what he didn't. If I miss something, please just send it again.
- Donations for any programs involving the 517th should be sent to our new Association Treasurer: Identify the purpose of any donation (Annual Donations, In Memory of... etc.) and make all checks payable to:

517 PRCT Association, Inc.
c/o Miriam Boyle Kelly
19 Oriole Court
Saratoga Springs, NY 12866

Website	www.517prct.org
Send MailCall news to	MailCall@517prct.org
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2016 Roster (updated!)	www.517prct.org/roster.pdf
Thunderbolt Archives	www.517prct.org/archives



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